REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action of October 12, 2005 is gratefully acknowledged.

Claims 1 - 4 have been examined and these have been rejected as follows: claims 1 - 4 as indefinite because "in and/or" in lines 5 and 7 of claim 1 is indefinite and "the first vertical wall" in line 9 of claim 1 lacks antecedent basis; and claims 1 - 4 as unpatentable under 35 USC 103 over Ohtuski et al.

In an effort to overcome the indefiniteness rejection and to more clearly define the invention over the art of record, claims 1 - 4 have been canceled and replaced with new claims 5 - 9.

According to the present invention, a combination seal is defined for a bearing unit which can be downsized without enlarging the axial length and radial length, even when a relative position in an axial direction is somewhat varied, in the event that a first annular case and a second annular case are incorporated into the bearing unit. According to the present invention, bending of a radial lip in the reverse direction is prevented when incorporated into the bearing unit, while retaining a sure sealing effect. None of the references of record, including Ohtsuki et al teach these features.

As claimed, two features are noted. The first feature is that a first annular case and a second annular case are fitted into one of the rotatable member and the stationary member before they are incorporated into the bearing unit, while the second feature resides in the fact that the radial lip is so constructed as to directly contact with the outer circumferential surface of a stationary member or a rotatable member to which the first annular case has been previously affixed after the first and second cases are appropriately incorporated into the bearing unit.

Ohtsuki et al does not, it is respectfully submitted, teach a first annular case and a second annular case being previously fitted into a rotatable member or a stationary member before they are incorporated into a bearing unit. Nor, it is

respectfully submitted, does Ohtsuki et al teach how one would prevent bending the radial lip in the reverse direction when a first annular case is inserted into a bearing unit. New claims 5 - 9 define the invention so that the features noted above are clearly recited. These features, which Ohtsuki et al does not teach should be sufficient to place claims 5 - 9 in allowable form.

Submitted herewith are two Replacement Sheets of drawing for Figs. 3 and 8. Fig. 3 now shows the input cylinder 6 which is necessary to conform it with Fig. 2, while Fig. 8 changes 24t to 24A.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and re-examination are respectfully requested and claims 5 - 9 found allowable.

Respectfully submitted,
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